GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:479
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006
APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTORS FOR VERFICATION OF HELICOPTER PILOTS
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has no Helicopter flight operations inspector to verify the qualifications and skills of more than 150 pilots of helicopters for the last three years as reported in the Hindustan dated July 11, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to appoint qualified inspectors to verify the qualifications and skills of helicopter pilots keeping in view the safety of the passengers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- Yes, Sir. The post of Inspector of Flying/ Flight Operations Inspector (Helicopter) is vacant since 16.08.2004, due to shortage of eligible helicopters pilots in the country and the fact that no pilots from the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and industry are willing to serve a s Flight Operations Inspector (Helicopter) because of the g a p between the renumerations offered by PSUs/industry and the prescribed pay - scale for this post in Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). However, DGCA approved examiners are carrying out skill test of pilots to ensure safety in operation. Also services of Helicopter Advisor from European Union attached with Helicopter Cell in DGCA are being utilised by DGCA.

(c):- Union Public Service Commission had found one suitable candidate earlier but due to his unwillingness he did not appear for the personal talk in the Commission. DGCA has since being making efforts to fill up this post and the vacancy has been re-advertised in the Employment News 22-28 July, 2006.